



THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Beck *et al.*

Appl. No. 09/547,791

Filed: April 12, 2000

For: **System, Method, and Computer Program Product for Weather and Terrestrial Vegetation-Based Water Renovation and Management Forecasting**

Art Unit: 2163

Examiner: Hafritz, T.

Atty. Docket: 1481.0170000

RECEIVED

MAY 23 2002

GROUP 3600

Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

RECEIVED

MAY 20 2002

Technology Center 2100

Sir:

Listed on accompanying Form PTO-1449 are documents that may be considered material to the examination of this application, in compliance with the duty of disclosure requirements of 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98.

Where the publication date of a listed document provides a year but does not provide a month of publication, the year of publication of the listed document is sufficiently earlier than the effective U.S. filing date and any foreign priority date so that the month of publication is not in issue. Applicants have listed publication dates on the attached PTO-1449 based on information presently available to the undersigned. However, the listed publication dates should not be construed as an admission that the information was actually published on the date indicated.

Applicants reserve the right to establish the patentability of the claimed invention over any of the information provided herewith, and/or to prove that this information may not be prior art, and/or to prove that this information may not be enabling for the teachings purportedly offered.

This statement should not be construed as a representation that a search has been made, or that information more material to the examination of the present patent application does not exist. The Examiner is specifically requested not to rely solely on the material submitted herewith.

Applicants have checked the appropriate boxes below.

- 1. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits. No statement or fee is required.
- 2. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date AND after the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, but before the mailing date of a Final Rejection, or Notice of Allowance, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application.
 - a. I hereby state that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1).
 - b. I hereby state that no item of information in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and, to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(2).
 - c. Attached is our Check No. _____ in the amount of \$ _____ in payment of the fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p).
- 3. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date and after the mailing date of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance, but before payment of the Issue Fee. Enclosed find our Check No. _____ in the amount of \$ _____ in payment of the fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p); in addition:

- a. I hereby state that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1).
- b. I hereby state that no item of information in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and, to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(2).

☒ 4. The documents were cited in a search report by a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application. An English language version of the search report that indicates the degree of relevance to German Patent No. 41 14 584 A 1 and French Patent No. 2 732 477 A1 found by the foreign office is provided in satisfaction of the requirement for a concise explanation of relevance. 1138 OG 37, 38.

☒ 5. A concise explanation of the relevance of the non-English language document(s) appears below:

☒ 6. Copies of the documents were cited by or submitted to the Office in an IDS that complies with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)-(c) in Application No. _____, filed _____, which is relied upon for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. § 120. Thus, copies of these documents are not attached. 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(d).

It is respectfully requested that the Examiner initial and return a copy of the enclosed PTO-1449, and indicate in the official file wrapper of this patent application that the documents have been considered.

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036. A duplicate copy of this pleading is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.



Molly A. McCall
Attorney for Applicants
Registration No. 46,126

Date: 5/16/02

1100 New York Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20005-3934
(202) 371-2600

P:\USERS\WOLF\1481\017\ids
SKGF Rev. 2/27/01 mac

**Sterne Kessler
Goldstein Fox**
ATTORNEYS AT LAW



Robert Greene Sterne
Edward J. Kessler
Jorge A. Goldstein
David K.S. Comwell
Robert W. Esmond
Tracy-Gene G. Durkin
Michele A. Cimbala
Michael B. Ray
Robert E. Sokohl
Eric K. Steffe
Michael Q. Lee
Steven R. Ludwig
John M. Covert
Linda E. Alcorn
Robert C. Millonig
Lawrence B. Bugalsky
Donald J. Featherstone
Michael V. Messinger

Judith U. Kim
Timothy J. Shea, Jr.
Patrick E. Garrett
Jeffery T. Hevey
Heidi L. Kraus
Crystal D. Sayles
Edward W. Yee
Albert L. Ferro*
Donald R. Banowitz
Peter A. Jackman
Molly A. McCall
Teresa U. Medler
Jeffrey S. Weaver
Kendrick P. Patterson
Vincent L. Capuano
Albert J. Pasulio II*
Eldora Ellison Floyd
W. Russell Swindell

Thomas C. Fiala
Brian J. Del Buono*
Virgil Lee Beaston*
Reginald D. Lucas*
Kimberly N. Reddick
Theodore A. Wood
Elizabeth J. Haanes
Bruce E. Chalker
Joseph S. Ostroff
Frank R. Cotttingham*
Christine M. Lhulier
Rae Lynn Prengaman*
Jane Shershenovich*
Lawrence J. Carroll*

Senior Counsel
Samuel L. Fox
Kenneth C. Bass III

Registered Patent Agents
Karen R. Markowicz
Andrea J. Kamage
Nancy J. Leith
Joseph M. Conrad III
Ann E. Summerfield
Helene C. Carlson
Gaby L. Longsworth
Matthew J. Dowd
Aaron L. Schwartz
Angelique G. Uy
Boris A. Matvenko
Mary B. Tung

*Admitted only in Maryland
*Admitted only in Virginia
▲Admitted only in Texas

May 16, 2002

WRITER'S DIRECT NUMBER:
(202) 218-7817

INTERNET ADDRESS:
mamcall@skgf.com

GROUP ART UNIT: 2163
Examiner: Hafritz, Tariq

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Re: U.S. Utility Patent Application
Appl. No. 09/547,791; Filed: April 12, 2000
For: **System, Method, and Computer Program Product for Weather and
Terrestrial Vegetation-Based Water Renovation and Management
Forecasting**
Inventors: Beck *et al.*
Our Ref: 1481.0170000

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for appropriate action are the following documents:

1. Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) (*in duplicate*);
2. Form PTO-1449 with five (5) accompanying documents; and
3. One (1) Return Post Card.

It is respectfully requested that the attached postcard be stamped with the date of filing of these documents, and that it be returned to our courier. In the event that extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned.

RECEIVED
MAY 20 2002
Technology Center 2100

RECEIVED
MAY 23 2002
GROUP 3600

Commissioner for Patents
May 16, 2002
Page 2

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036. A duplicate copy of this letter is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.



Molly A. McCall
Attorney for Applicants
Registration No. 46,126

MQL/MAM/tc
Enclosures

SKGF_DC1:15045.1